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SALEM, OREGON, THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1916

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## THIRTY THOUSAND DIE IN UNDERGROUND BATTLE

### Germans Claim French Have Evacuated Dead Man's Hill—For 72 Hours Fighting Was Carried On Hand to Hand In Dark Caverns of the Trenches—Seven Thousand Dead On Seven Hundred Yard Front—Ground Covered With Corpses and Neither Side Can Reach Wounded

Tragic Scenes In World's Greatest Battle

Every man in a French force penetrating Fort Douaumont killed. Soldiers fighting in dark underground tunnels, using hand searchlights, knives and bombs. Hundreds of French and Germans buried alive in the wrecking of subterranean works. Scores of men driven insane by the lust of butchery. Surgeons, amputating legs and arms without anaesthetics, report the wounded continuing their struggle with knives, although unable to stand. A French captain reported seven thousand dead heaped along a seven hundred yard front.

Berlin, May 25.—With the bloodiest fighting in all history the giant German nutcracker is closing in on Verdun today. Its right jaw has advanced on a front of three miles during the past seventy-two hours.

After sacrificing more than one entire army corps in an effort to retain the Dead Man's hill position, northwest of Verdun, the French evacuated the whole stronghold. Hill 304, cornerstone of the French defense west of the Meuse, is held jointly by French and Germans.

Further slight advances by the Germans in ravines on either side will force its surrender to the right wing of the German army. The left jaw of the Teuton machine has entirely reconquered positions temporarily surrendered to French troops.

It is estimated thirty thousand men died fighting in the dark, underground caverns about the ruins of Douaumont for 72 hours, with no resultant change in the battle line.

Positive denial is made of French claims that General Nivelle's forces even temporarily occupied the ruins of Fort Douaumont. The only French detachment that entered the fort was completely wiped out, declared the Berlin war office.

On the southern and western approaches to the fort the earth is covered with countless corpses and many wounded, crawling feebly about hunting shelter and aid. Since the French attacked last Sunday there has been no lull in the savage struggle and neither side has been able to reach its wounded.

West of the Meuse, French troops are being steadily driven back upon the Verdun forts. The German center, which took Dead Man's hill, has not yet occupied all abandoned works because French artillery is still playing on its southern ridges.

Paris, May 25.—French troops advanced during the night along the Meuse west bank east of Cumieres village, fighting with hand grenades, it was officially announced today. The

## ABE MARTIN



A dandy way to punish Dentist Waite, th' self confessed New York poisoner, would be to fill his mouth with rubber sheets 'n' then quack him. As a rule th' feller who's stuck on himself hardly ever wastes any time blockin' others.

## Shot the Woman and Then Killed Himself

San Francisco, May 25.—Jealous of another man and disappointed because she refused to marry him Gus Le Gunnee, butcher, today fired two shots into the head of Mrs. Lou Reynolds, aged 35, divorcee. Le Gunnee then shot himself through the head.

Both were rushed to the Central emergency hospital, from the woman's home. The man is dying and the woman has an even chance to recover.

Le Gunnee called at the Reynolds home today and asked the woman to marry him. She refused.

An hour later he returned and asked for a package which he claimed to have left. Mrs. Nellie Forrest, friend of Mrs. Reynolds, permitted him to enter her room.

Le Gunnee repeated his proposal and then shot the Reynolds woman as she reiterated her refusal.

## TEXAS MILITIAMEN TO BE COURT-MARTIALED

### Secretary of War Baker Changes Opinion After Examining New Law

Washington, May 25.—Reversing his decision of yesterday, Secretary of War Baker announced today he would call a court-martial to try the cases of 116 Texas militiamen charged with falling to present themselves for border duty.

Baker's reversal was due to the discovery of legal points in the new army bill which would not oblige the militia required of the Texas militiamen that they defend the constitution and obey the orders of the Texas governor. No mention was made of fealty to the president's orders.

Under these circumstances Judge Advocate General Crowder believes the new army bill does not render the militia law void. The offense of failure to present themselves at muster is not wiped out. The validity of their reasons for so doing will be decided at the court-martial.

## BULL TACKLED AUTO

San Rafael, Cal., May 25.—John Geary's bull became incensed at the sight of John A. Saunders new red automobile, and gored it. Wanted, four tires, six cushions and a coat of paint.

## DISTRICT ATTORNEY MUST EXPLAIN ACTS

### Claim Made He Was Guest of Chinese Smugglers On Board Their Yacht

Seattle, Wash., May 25.—Clay Allen United States district attorney, and Winter S. Martin, one of his assistants, will be asked to explain to a federal court why they went on cruises about the Sound as guests of members of the Yellow Ows gang of alleged smugglers and wait occurred on board. They will be called, it became known today, as witnesses in the defense of Louis Ding, Louise Lung Ling and seven other Chinese alleged members of the gang.

Attorney Martin is prosecuting the Chinese for the government before federal judge Jere Aeterer.

It was also stated by the defense, yesterday shortly after the trial opened, that inspector Thomas M. Fisher, of the immigration service, who was responsible for the arrest of the gang, will be a witness for the defense and will be questioned closely concerning his visits to the haunts of the Chinese.

The Yellow Ows are said to have operated between Seattle and Vancouver, B. C., bringing Chinese and contraband opium here. An estimated profit of their business covering a period of two years is well over \$1,000,000.

Three white members of the Yellow Ows—Louis E. Lortie, James P. Worthington and Melvin R. Miller, who have confessed and pleaded guilty are witnesses for the government.

Lortie, called to the stand as the prosecution's first witness, explained that he owned the launch Maud D., one of the craft used by the smugglers and told of his operations between the two cities, implicating in his recital Louis Ding and Louis Lung Gin.

Thomas B. MacMahon, attorney for the defense began Lortie's cross-examination this morning.

## EMMELINE WAS DELAYED

San Francisco, May 25.—Owing to train troubles, Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, famous English suffragette, failed to arrive here today for her scheduled speech at the California civic league luncheon. She was delayed by a landslide on the Western Pacific.

Mrs. Pankhurst is speaking in the interest of Serbian war sufferers. Her program has been rearranged, as she will visit Stockton this afternoon and take an early train for San Francisco tomorrow.

## Exhaustion Causes Halt

London, May 25.—After exhaustion of the human element in the great fighting machines struggling for mastery at Verdun brought a lull today in the savage battle.

The frightful slaughter at Fort Douaumont came to a halt with the works in German hands. During the night French troops made no effort to wrest it from the Bayarrians.

Minor fighting proceeded today with slight advantage to both sides.

While the men rest in their trenches, however, the tremendous artillery engagement is still raging with appalling violence.

(Continued on Page 21.)

## GERMANS CHERISH NO HOPE OF EARLY ENDING OF WAR

### Think England Tired Enough To Quit, But France Will Hold Out

## WILSON AS PEACEMAKER NOT PLEASING TO THEM

### If President Proposes Peace It Will Be For All Nations of Europe

by Carl W. Ackerman  
(United Press staff correspondent)

Berlin, May 25.—German officials cherish no hopes of an early end to the war, despite peace talk in Washington, Berlin and London. Great interest is manifested here, however, in President Wilson's speech at the Mecklenburg declaration of independence celebration. It won wide notice in the German press.

Officials believe that, although they think England is tired of the war, France will exert such pressure as to prevent peace until after an expected allied offensive.

Conservative German newspapers do not relish the idea of Wilson as a peacemaker. The Lokal Anzeiger said today: "Wilson must prove a change in his attitude by demanding and enforcing respect for international law by our foes before undertaking the more difficult role."

## Will Act for All, or None

By Carl D. Groat  
(United Press staff correspondent)

Washington, May 25.—When President Wilson moves toward peace, he will act in behalf of all Europe and not of a single group of nations. This was told earlier at the White House today, before the League to Enforce Peace.

The president discussed his position freely, indicating that he was basing his attitude on a vast amount of information from various sources. He did not disclose anything forecasting an immediate step in behalf of peace.

It is understood that the president is favorable to the proposition of having congress pass a resolution providing for the calling of a conference of all nations subsequent to the war, to adopt plans preventing a recurrence of hostilities.

## GREY'S SPEECH ENDS ALL HOPE OF PEACE

### England Banks On Submarine Drawing America Into War With Germany

By Wilbur S. Forrest  
(United Press staff correspondent)

London, May 25.—In consequence of Mr. Edward Grey's declaration that there will be no peace until Germany shifts its attitude, Lloyd's war odds became more shifty. Lloyd has been offering even money that the conflict will not end this year.

Today's odds were three to one that the war will not end before April 1, 1917, 20 to one it will end before April 1, 1918, 40 to one that Sweden will not join Germany within six months, two to one that Germany and America will not be at war this month.

The German-American odds reflect the English feeling that a submarine attack on a passenger liner with loss of life would upset President Wilson's settlement and precipitate war.

Grey's speech was generally applauded by newspapers today. London opinion is that he has killed all German hope of making peace terms if the kaiser desires an early end to the war.

## ORPET TRIAL MAY BE JUDICIAL FARCE

### Of 626 Jurors Examined Only Four Are Passed—Fine Legal Vaudeville

Waukegan, Ill., May 25.—Only four jurors for the murder trial of William H. Orpet have been obtained from a total of 626 men examined, and the trial dragged today. Judge Donnelly, angered at comments on the proceedings, imposed silence on both the state and the defense.

The parents of Marian Lambert, the dead girl, will be called as witnesses for the defense, it was learned today. This will be done in an attempt to prove that Marian was afflicted with hereditary insanity, and that she had a suicidal mania and suffered from hallucinations. The defense will claim that she poisoned herself while obsessed with one of these hallucinations.

Taken unawares by this unexpected attack, the state vainly tried to save a number of jurors who had been temporarily passed but was unable to do so against the new fire of defense questions and the box was nearly emptied.

## TODAY'S BALL SCORES

American	R.	H.	E.
St. Louis	5	11	1
New York	7	8	4
Detroit	2	9	2
Boston	5	14	2
Cleveland	2	9	2
Philadelphia	5	11	1

## Attorneys Ask Ruling On the "Dead Level"

Portland, Or., May 25.—While James L. Level was held in jail for a debt, attorneys today asked circuit judge Morrow to declare his cousin, John M. Level, legally dead.

John Level is serving a sentence of 15 years or life imprisonment in San Quentin penitentiary. James Level owes him \$1043. Friends of John Level had James arrested on an "execution against the body" and by paying the county his bond, are holding James in jail.

Attorneys agree that John Level is "civilly dead" but there is some question whether he is legally dead. Judge Morrow today demanded a transcript of the proceedings in the California court where John Level was sent to San Quentin. The attorneys are not certain whether he is serving 15 years or life.

## WILKESON'S MAYOR GETS TEN DAYS IN JAIL

### Must Also Put Up \$486.75 Costs of Trial For Selling Liquors Unlawfully

Tacoma, Wash., May 25.—Mayor Joseph McCaskey, of Wilkeson, is preparing today to spend a vacation of 10 days in Tacoma, as a guest of the city. His stay will be somewhat expensive, as he will leave \$486.75 here. He will be domiciled at the county jail.

This was decided by Superior Judge Esterday, who sentenced the Wilkeson mayor to serve 10 days imprisonment and to pay the costs of the trial for violation of the state prohibition law. He was convicted two weeks ago of selling liquor at his drug store.

Made Too Many Sales.

Tacoma, Wash., May 25.—Adam W. Shelley, proprietor of a drug store, is at liberty today on \$1,000 bond, following his arrest in the suburb of Ruston on the charge of having too much intoxicating liquor in his store. According to the records of Shelley's pharmacy, almost everybody living in Ruston is a "mechanic." The books show \$75 sales of alcohol for "mechanical purposes" since January 1. A truckload of whiskey and other assorted bottle goods, was taken from the place by the raiders.

## INSANITY WILL BE BASIS OF DEFENSE

### Waite's Lawyers Will Undertake To Show He Is Utterly Irresponsible

New York, May 25.—Dr. Arthur Warren Waite's fight to escape the electric chair for the murder of his wife's parents started today. Insanity is the basis of the defense.

Dark hints concerning the "man from Egypt" were thrown out by Waite's attorneys when the court battle was resumed. It was apparent the defense would seek to prove that the sinister shadow, figment of Waite's disordered intellect, was the real slayer.

An effort will be made to show that Waite was helpless in the power of this intangible power which, he claims, drove him to kill Mr. and Mrs. John H. Peck by the use of deadly poisons and disease germs.

If Waite is convicted, it will be because of the testimony of three women, his sweetheart and friend, court observers believe. All three gave strong testimony against him.

After his wife and presented her evidence, Mrs. Margaret Weaver Waite, the woman with whom Waite rented a "studio suite" for the study of music and languages, was called. She said Waite told her he was doing research work for Dr. Muller. Also, said Mrs. Horton, Waite manifested peculiar traits, sometimes bursting into tears when she played or sang, and often asserting that all men were children. She asserted that her relationship with Waite was purely platonic.

Dr. Muller, a friend of Waite and a New York physician, testified that shortly before the death of Peck, Waite obtained from him a quantity of arsenic for the alleged purpose of "poisoning a sick cat."

Waite's counsel announced he would take the stand to tell his own story. Defense counsel Deuel also briefly outlined the insanity defense in opening his case.

Clyde testified that the defendant, as a boy, was cruel to horses and took delight in drowning kittens. He said the prisoner had no appreciation of the difference between right and wrong.

At school, asserted Clyde, Dr. Waite was a thief, and he said he was also a thief at college.

Dr. Waite's father testified, saying that his two cousins were in an insane asylum. As a boy, he declared, Arthur was cross, a laggard, sullen and ran away from home. He once stole \$200, said the father.

The defense claimed that Waite is insane now, and through the testimony of relatives will seek to show that he is of a peculiar disposition. This will lead up to Waite's story of the "man from Egypt."

Frank Waite, a brother, was the first defense witness. He said: "Three months after Arthur was born it was noticed that his head was unusually large. In school days he was quarrelsome, and a laggard in his studies."

Cross examined, Frank Waite declared he did not remember telling Bellevue hospital physicians there was no indication of mental deficiency, epilepsy or criminality in the defendant's character.

Clyde Waite, another brother, was next called.

## MEXICAN SITUATION IS VERY UNCERTAIN

### Clash With Carranza's Troops Feared—This Would Put Match to Powder

Columbus, N. M., May 25.—New orders were forwarded to General Pershing from General Funston today, governing the course to be taken by United States forces in the event of a clash with Carranza's troops. These orders were necessitated by the strong reinforcements just received by Mexican columns near the American expedition.

Reinforcements Refused.

Washington, May 25.—Reports that General Funston had requested additional coast artillerymen for infantry service along the Mexican border were confirmed today when it was announced the suggestion had been refused. In explanation of its refusal, the war department said it did not desire to strip the coast defenses further. The request came subsequently to the summoning of militia. Funston has not asked for more national guardsmen.

Funston Wants Militia.

San Antonio, Texas, May 25.—General Frederick Funston this afternoon flatly contradicted Washington reports that he had not asked for additional national guardsmen. He declared he had requested that the militia of Louisiana, Oklahoma and Arkansas be rushed to the border. He asserted he still hoped to get the Fourth Texas infantry sent to Big Bend.

## BODY OF RISTMAN FOUND NEAR THE JENNINGS HOME

### Is Discovered In Pile of Brush One Mile From Scene of Murder

## HE HAD BEEN KILLED BY HEAVY BLOW ON HEAD

### Discovery Throws No Light On the Identity of the Murderer

Portland, Ore., May 25.—The body of Fred Ristman, missing jiltneur in the Jennings murder mystery, was found this morning in a thicket of brush a mile from the Gore homestead where Mrs. Helen C. Jennings was killed while she slept Monday night, May 15.

Ristman evidently had been killed by a heavy blow on the head. The body was found by deputy sheriffs Yron Portland near where Sheriff Hubert yesterday found one of Ristman's gloves. A farmer picked the glove up in the road the day after the murder and hung it on a fence post.

The finding of Ristman's body is the most important bit of evidence discovered since the murder, but it throws little light on the identity of the murderer.

Monday night, May 15, a stranger hired Ristman to take him to Sherwood, 17 miles from Portland. Ristman did not return the next day and a searching party was organized. Late Tuesday his blood stained automobile was found near the Gore homestead where Mrs. Helen C. Jennings, a prominent Portland divorcee, lived alone.

The house was entered and Mrs. Jennings' body was found in bed. Her skull had been crushed by a terrific blow from a sledge hammer, which lay beside the bed.

A quarter of a mile down the road Ristman's hat, a lap robe, and torn pieces of a shirt were found. All were blood stained. Pieces of brain were clinging to the lap robe.

Poses scoured the woods and dragged and dynamited the Tualatin river for Ristman's body. They searched only along the main road, however. The spot where Ristman's body was found today was near a by-road back of the Gore homestead.

Bennett Thompson, an ex-convict, known to have visited Mrs. Jennings frequently, was arrested the day after the murder was discovered. He offered no resistance and steadfastly denied any knowledge of the crime. His sister-in-law asserts that Thompson was in her house during all of Monday night when the murder was committed.

Thompson hired a lawyer, asserted that he can prove a complete alibi, and has maintained a discreet silence ever since. No charges have been filed against him.

The motive for the crime is undecided.

Ristman's body was lying face downward in an open space in the brush. The coat was pulled over the back of his neck, leading officers to believe that the body had been dragged by the shoulders.

The back of the skull had been crushed by a heavy blow. The condition of the body confirmed the belief of officers that the mysterious passenger in the back seat of the taxicab killed the driver as he sat at the wheel.

## CONFERENCE PROHIBITS CARDS, DANCES, THEATRES

Saratoga, N. Y., May 25.—By a vote of 434 to 350 the Methodist general conference this afternoon decided to retain the church rule providing that Methodists must not play cards, dance or attend theatres. There was no debate.

## THE WEATHER

Oregon: Tonight and Friday partly cloudy; winds mostly westerly.

## I MUST TAKE THE BOY TO THE CIRCUS

A dandy way to punish Dentist Waite, th' self confessed New York poisoner, would be to fill his mouth with rubber sheets 'n' then quack him. As a rule th' feller who's stuck on himself hardly ever wastes any time blockin' others.